

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

With this Amendment, claim 4 has been canceled, claims 1 and 3 have been amended, and new claims 5-15 have been added. As of entry of this Amendment, the status of the claims (claims 1-15) in the above-identified application is as follows:

1. (Amended) A water-repellent sheet with a protective film, which comprises:

a base layer;

a water-repellent layer disposed on the base layer; and

a protective film bonded to the water-repellent layer such that the water-repellent layer is between the protective film and the base layer, wherein the water-repellent layer contains a fluorocarbon-based polymer binder and a fluorocarbon-based resin powder dispersed in said fluorocarbon-based polymer binder[,]~~and the water-repellent layer remains on the base layer.~~

2. The water-repellant sheet of claim 1, wherein the water-repellent layer exhibits a certain cohesive force, and wherein the adhesive force between the water-repellent layer and the protective film is greater than the cohesive force.

3. (Amended) ~~A sheet for~~ The water repellent sheet of claim 1 wherein the water repellent layer comprises water-repellant material, the protective film capable of being removed from the water-repellent layer such that the water-repellent layer remains disposed on the base layer and is capable of preventing snow adhesion while some of the water-repellent material remains on the protective film ~~comprising a water repellant sheet formed by removing the protective film from the water repellent sheet of claim 1~~

4. (Canceled)

5. (New) The water-repellent sheet of claim 1 wherein the fluorocarbon-based polymer binder comprises: a fluorocarbon-based polymer and an additional polymer, the additional polymer

comprising an acrylic-silicone polymer, a polyester, an ethylene/carbon monoxide copolymer, an ethylene/vinyl ketone copolymer, an propylene/vinyl ketone copolymer, a styrene/vinyl ketone copolymer, or a silicone.

6. (New) The water-repellent sheet of claim 5 wherein the fluorocarbon-based polymer comprises a polymer of vinylidene fluoride or a polymer of ethylene tetrafluoride.

7. (New) The water-repellent sheet of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the fluorocarbon-based resin powder ranges from about 30 weight percent to about 90 weight percent, based on the total weight of the fluorocarbon-based polymer binder and the fluorocarbon-based resin powder in the water-repellent layer.

8. (New) The water-repellent sheet of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the fluorocarbon-based resin powder ranges from about 50 weight percent to about 90 weight percent, based on the total weight of the fluorocarbon-based polymer binder and the fluorocarbon-based resin powder in the water-repellent layer.

9. (New) The water-repellent sheet of claim 1 wherein the water-repellent sheet further comprises a release sheet adhesively bonded to the base layer, the water-repellent layer and the release sheet located on opposing sides of the base layer.

10. (New) The water repellent sheet of claim 1 wherein the water-repellent layer is capable of exhibiting a water contact angle of 140° after the water-repellent sheet undergoes compression bonding to a surface and removal of the protective film from the water-repellent layer.

11. (New) A water-repellent sheet, the water-repellent sheet comprising:

- a base layer;

- a water-repellent layer attached in working relation to the base layer;

- a protective film attached in working relation to the water-repellent layer, the base layer and

the protective film located on opposing sides of the water-repellent layer; and
wherein:

the water-repellent layer exhibits a cohesive force, an adhesive force exists between the protective film and the water-repellent layer, the adhesive force greater than the cohesive force.

12. (New) The water repellent sheet of claim 11 wherein the water repellent layer comprises water-repellant material, the protective film capable of being removed from the water-repellent layer such that the water-repellent layer remains attached in working relation to the base layer and some of the water-repellent material remains on the protective film

13. (New) The water-repellent sheet of claim 11 wherein the water-repellent sheet further comprises a release sheet adhesively bonded to the base layer, the water-repellent layer and the release sheet located on opposing sides of the base layer.

14. (New) The water repellent sheet of claim 11 wherein the water-repellent layer is capable of exhibiting a water contact angle of 140° after the water-repellent sheet undergoes compression bonding to a surface and removal of the protective sheet from the water-repellent layer.

15. (New) A water-repellent sheet, the water-repellent sheet comprising:

a substrate;

a base layer adhesively attached to the substrate under compressive force; and

a water-repellent layer attached in working relation to the base layer under compressive force, the base layer located between the substrate and the water-repellent layer;
and

a protective film attached in working relation to the water-repellent layer, the base layer and the protective film located on opposing sides of the water-repellent layer; and
wherein the water-repellent layer is capable of exhibiting a water contact angle of 140° after removal of the protective sheet from the water-repellent layer: